CUCAMONGA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT



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MARTIN E. ZVIRBULIS Secretary / General Manager/CEO

September 8, 2011

Delta Stewardship Council 980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500 Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Significant Continued Concerns about the Draft Delta Plan

Dear Chairman Isenberg and Members of the Council:

I am writing to express my concern with the draft Delta Plan being developed by the Delta Stewardship Council. Though the fifth draft plan shows some improvement over previous drafts (a slight reduction in the number of policies and an increase in recommendations). I am concerned it will not meet the co-equal goals of improved water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem health in its current form.

I am very concerned that the draft plan is vague about what kind of water supply we can expect in the future. Our area cannot adequately plan and pursue opportunities without some certainty as to our future water supplies. California simply cannot afford to advance any plan that creates local uncertainty and economic instability at this time.

The Cucamonga Valley Water District currently receives approximately 40% of our water supply from the State Water Project and is aware and supportive of the need to operate it meeting the needs of the environment and equally the need to provide a reliable and safe drinking water supply to millions of Californians. One of our organizational goals is to be good stewards of the environment and we are proud to be able to accomplish this goal through an extensive number of environmental efforts while at the same time still meeting the water supply needs of our customers; however, continued and increased water supply uncertainty is beginning to hinder our ability to continue to achieve these goals.

It is also extremely troubling that the plan attempts to dictate local water management decisions on everything from rate structures to recycling targets. That level of micromanagement from Sacramento undercuts local planning hundreds of miles from the Delta. The council should focus its energy instead on improving our water supplies and the ecosystem health of the Delta.

I respectfully urge the council to fully consider these concerns and discuss the Alternate Delta Plan developed by statewide water, business and agricultural interests through the Ag-Urban Coalition. I urge council members to work with the coalition to identify the best options for meeting the co-equal goals. We simply must get this plan right for the sake of our water supply, our economy and our environment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely.

Jo Lynne Russo-Pereyra

Assistant General Manager for External Affairs